

IFW

Atty. Docket No. AUTO 211-US2

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper, together with all enclosures identified herein, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

August 4, 2004

Date

Katie E. Dykgraaf

Katie E. Dykgraaf

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Joseph S. Stam et al.
Appln. No. : 10/777,468
Filing Date : February 12, 2004
Art Unit : 2836
For : AUTOMATIC VEHICLE EXTERIOR LIGHT
CONTROL SYSTEMS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the filing date of the above-referenced application but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the foreign documents are submitted herewith along with Form PTO-1449. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Applicant : Joseph S. Stam et al.
Appln. No. : 10/777,468
Page : 2

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language document:

1. WO 99/47396 discloses a system for detecting condensation on a windshield and for controlling vehicle headlamps. The particular pertinence of WO 99/47396 is readily apparent from the English language Abstract and the drawings.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding appropriate status of such documents.

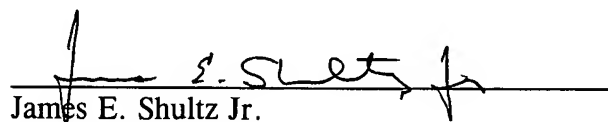
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 07-1070.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH S. STAM ET AL.

August 3, 2004
Date


James E. Shultz Jr.
Registration No. 50 511
Gentex Corporation
600 North Centennial Street
Zeeland, MI 49467
(616) 772-1590 x539



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/777,468
Filing Date	February 12, 2004
First Named Inventor	Joseph S. Stam et al
Art Unit	2836
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	AUTO 211-US2

Sheet 1 of 4

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 6,396,397	05-28-2002	Bos et al.	
		US- 20020040962	04-11-2002	Schofield et al.	
		US- 6,144,158	11-07-2000	Beam	
		US- 6,130,421	10-10-2000	Bechtel et al.	
		US- 6,097,023	08-01-2000	Schofield et al.	
		US- 6,049,171	04-11-2000	Stam et al.	
		US- 6,008,486	12-28-1999	Stam et al.	
		US- 5,990,469	11-23-1999	Bechtel et al.	
		US- 5,942,853	08-24-1999	Piscart	
		US- 5,923,027	07-13-1999	Stam et al.	
		US- 5,912,534	06-15-1999	Benedict	
		US- 5,841,126	11-24-1998	Fossum et al.	
		US- 5,837,994	11-17-1998	Stam et al.	
		US- 5,812,321	09-22-1998	Schierbeek et al.	
		US- 5,811,888	09-22-1998	Hsieh	
		US- 5,796,094	08-18-1998	Schofield et al.	
		US- 5,715,093	02-03-1998	Schierbeek et al.	
		US- 5,666,028	09-09-1997	Bechtel et al.	
		US- 5,660,454	08-26-1997	Mori et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	2	of	4
-------	---	----	---

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/777,468
Filing Date	February 12, 2004
First Named Inventor	Joseph S. Stam et al
Art Unit	2836
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	AUTO 211-US2

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

3

of

4

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/777,468
Filing Date	February 12, 2004
First Named Inventor	Joseph S. Stam et al
Art Unit	2836
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	AUTO 211-US2

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 4,891,559	01-02-1990	Matsumoto et al.	
		US- 4,862,037	08-29-1989	Farber et al.	
		US- 4,768,135	08-30-1988	Kretschmer et al.	
		US- 4,727,290	02-23-1988	Smith et al.	
		US- 4,692,798	09-08-1987	Seko et al.	
		US- 4,665,321	05-12-1987	Chang et al.	
		US- 4,599,544	07-08-1986	Martin	
		US- 4,376,909	03-15-1983	Tagmi et al.	
		US- 4,357,558	11-02-1982	Massoni et al.	
		US- 4,236,099	11-25-1980	Rosenblum	
		US- 4,139,801	02-13-1979	Linares	
		US- 2,827,594	03-18-1958	Rabinow	
		US- 2,632,040	03-17-1953	Rabinow	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

FORM PTO-1449
(REV. 7-80)DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
AUTO 211-US2SERIAL NO.
10/777,468INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT
JOSEPH S. STAM ET AL.FILING DATE
February 12, 2004

GROUP 2836

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS		PATENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS		PATENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No
	A	0022881	04/20/00	PCT				
	B	9947396	09/23/99	PCT				X
	C	9843850	10/08/98	PCT				
	D	9735743	10/02/97	PCT				
	E	8605147	09/12/86	PCT				
	F	2946561	05/27/81	Germany			X	
	G	8-166221	06/25/96	Japan			X	
	H	2641237	07/06/90	France			X	
	I	2726144	04/26/96	France			X	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.